Application No.: 10/780,271

Response dated: August 31, 2007

Reply to Office Action of May 1, 2007

REMARKS

This is responsive to the office action dated May 1, 2007. A response is due on August 1, 2007 without an extension of time. Therefore, a one month extension of time to extend the time for response until September 1, 2007 is enclosed herewith.

Claims 1, 3-16, 18-19, 22-30, 32-34, 36-41, 43-45 and 47-56 are not pending in this application. Claims 17, 31 and 46 are cancelled. Claims 1, 27, 32, 33. 40, 47, and 56 are currently amended.

Claims 1 and 56 were objected to because the word "and" was misspelled. Appropriate correction has been taken therefore the objection should be rendered moot. Claims 1, 3-19, 22-34, 36-41, and 43-56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable under Kim et al (US patent publication no. 2003/0120729) in view of Ferguson et al (US patent no. 6,820,094).

Applicants conducted an oral interview with Examiners Stevens and Ali and discussed proposed amendments regarding the incorporation of the language of Claim 17 into Claim 1. The discussion also focused on the applicability of Kim et al and Ferguson et al. The present amendments reflect those discussions. In the interview, the discussion centered on the deficiency in Ferguson because Ferguson teaches updating an existing STG file, while the applicants' invention is directed to the use of link editing logic to automatically update the path of the link to a target document.

The present invention is directed to a data-management system and device to be provided to a digital computer terminal for generating a link in real time between an electronic document opened in a computer application and a target document. The digital computer terminal includes a computer readable memory and a data-capture device, while the data-management system includes data-capture logic and device for controlling capture of electronic data by the data-capture device, target-document logic for generating the target document from the electronic data, which represents an information object captured by a data-capture device, and link-generating logic for substantially simultaneously storing the target document in the computer readable memory and generating the link to the target document in the electronic document in real time. The present invention also provides a data-management system for generating a plurality of links to target documents in an electronic document.

The present invention is different in that a link is not limited to HTML and can include C, Basic, Java, Assembler, and the like. The present invention does not require an HTTP server, and can

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operate self-contained on a stand-alone PC (no network required), or over a network of any type –
TCP/IP, IPX/SPX, Banyan's Vines, AppleTalk, DLC, etc. The present invention creates links in a
spreadsheet, word processing document, database, or flowchart and can create multiple links in the same
process required to create one link. The present invention also creates a link to any type of electronic
document, regardless of what application created the document, and regardless of what application is
required to view the document. Thus, the present invention goes beyond simple document management
applications, since its main purpose is preparing documents with supporting links to be transmitted
electronically while maintaining the operability of the links.

      The Examiner has correctly noted that Kim et al does not explicitly teach data management logic
to automatically update a path of a link. The Examiner is incorrect in that Ferguson suggests this
limitation. The update that Ferguson describes is between the STG (attribute file) and the Smart folder,
not between the links' target file and the source document. Smart folders are described as folders
associated with certain categories or criteria. Source documents are associated with smart folders based
on attributes found in their associated STG files.

      For example, a smart folder could be created with the category "Green". Therefore, all STG files
with a Color attribute of Green would be associated with the Green smart folder. When a STG file's
color attribute is changed from Green to Red the link between the STG file and the Green smart folder
would be eliminated. From this, how does Ferguson teach us how to update the underlying path to a
link? Ferguson never describes updating link paths but instead exhaustively describes categories and
categorization of documents – see Column 6, Lines 65- end, Column 7, Lines 1 – 45. An STG file is not
a link to a specific electronic document; instead it is a file that contains many attributes that describe a
corresponding electronic document.

      As the Examiner has noted Ferguson in column 3 lines 59-65 and column 7 lines 47-57 teaches
updating a file. As stated in Ferguson "an existing STG file may be updated if the corresponding
document is modified". But it is also noted in the section quoted by the Examiner in column 7 that
Ferguson teaches that "if a document is modified such as the modification causes the document to no
longer meet the category criteria of a particular smart folder, the link between the documents STG and
the smart folder may be eliminated." This does not teach updating the link and Ferguson does not teach

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the inclusion of link editing logic for such a purpose.

The remaining independent claims, namely Claims 27, 32, 33, 40, 47, and 57 have been amended along the lines of Claim 1 by incorporating language in existing dependent claims into the independent claims. All of this has been considered by the Examiner before. So, no new issues are presented by this amendment.

Since neither Ferguson nor Kim or any combination thereof suggest updating the link as is claimed in applicants' currently amended claims, applicants' claims should be considered patentable. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims pending in the application, namely Claims 1, 3-16, 18-19, 22-30, 32-34, 36-41, 43-45 and 47-56 is respectively requested.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the foregoing in more detail, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

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August 31, 2007

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EXAMINER
STEVENS, ROBERT

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2162	

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Response Due 8/1/07

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DOCKETED

MAY 0 4 2007

Debbie Lowe

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/780,271	HODGE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Robert Stevens	2162	

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *18 December 2006*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-56* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-56* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *05 February 2007* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *20061218*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____ .

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
PTOL-326 (Rev. 08-06)   Office Action Summary   Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20070425

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DETAILED ACTION

1.   The Office maintains/withdraws the previous rejections of the claims under 35

USC §101 and 102(e), in light of the amendment. However, the Office sets forth new

(and maintains previous) rejections of the claims under 35 USC §103(a), in light of the

amendment.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are

moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

3.   Applicant's arguments filed 12/18/2006 have been fully considered but they are

not persuasive.

Applicant's remarks have been stated as beginning on page 31 of the

Amendment.

Regarding Applicant' s comments on page 31 of the Amendment regarding the

previous rejections under 35 USC §§101 and 102(e), the Office has withdrawn these

rejections, in light of the amendment.

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Applicant provided a detailed description of Applicant's subject matter on pages

32-33. Applicant described and contrasted the Kim reference on page 33, and the

Ferguson reference on pages 33-34. Applicant asserts on pages 33-34 that the

Ferguson reference dos not teach several "limitations" that don't appear to be explicitly

claimed (i.e., don't use the same language as in the claims), and that Ferguson does

not teach updating links. Applicant also asserts that the cited references are improperly

combined because they are "different systems".

The Office respectfully disagrees. First, the contrasted material does not appear

to be specifically arguing the recited claim language. As such, Applicant appears to be

arguing the general concept of patentability (i.e., that the features upon which Applicant

relies are not expressly recited in the rejected claim(s)). Additionally, in response to

Applicant's argument that the Kim and Ferguson references are nonanalogous art, it

has been held that a prior art reference must either be in the field of applicant's

endeavor or, if not, then be reasonably pertinent to the particular problem with which the

applicant was concerned, in order to be relied upon as a basis for rejection of the

claimed invention. See In re Oetiker, 977 F.2d 1443, 24 USPQ2d 1443 (Fed. Cir.

1992). In this case, the references are of the same field of endeavor, namely document

management.

For at least these reasons, the Office asserts the rejections of the claims as set

forth below.

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Claim Objections

4.   **Claims 1 and 56 are objected to** because of the following informalities: In

claims 1 (at line 10) and also in claim 56 (at line 12) the word "and" has been misspelled

as "an d". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6.   **Claims 1, 3-19, 22-34, 36-41 and 43-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as

being unpatentable over Kim et al. (US Patent Application Publication No.

2003/0120729, filed as a continuation of Application no. 08/908544, which was filed on

Aug. 7, 1997 and published on Jan. 26, 2003, hereafter referred to as "Kim") in view of

Ferguson et al. (US Patent No. 6,820,094, filed Oct. 8, 1997 and issued Nov. 16, 2004,

hereafter referred to as "Ferguson").

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Regarding independent claim 1: Kim discloses

A data-management system to be provided to a digital computer terminal

for generating a link in real time between an electronic document opened in a

computer application and a target document, said digital computer terminal

comprising a computer readable memory and a data-capture device, (See the

Abstract and paragraphs [0012] – [0014] in Kim, discussing automatic link generation

between a target and an HTML document opened in a browser application upon

scanning a document into a target file digital format) *said data-management system*

comprising: data-capture logic for controlling capture of electronic data by said

data-capture device; (See Figure 4 #4 in Kim, showing the use of a scanner.) *target-*

document logic for generating said target document from said electronic data;

and (See paragraph [0012] in Kim, discussing inputting a document to a scanner or fax

and creating a file.) *link-generating logic for substantially simultaneously storing*

said target document in said computer readable memory and generating said link

to said target document in said electronic document in real time; (See paragraphs

[0012] – [0014] in Kim, discussing automatic link generation and storage and noting that

paragraph [0014] discusses retrieval of the created image file, which inherently required

that the file be stored before being retrieved.) *data-management logic for*

transmitting said electronic document and said target document to a data storage

device. (See paragraphs [0013] – [0014] in Kim, discussing the storage of documents.)

However, Kim does not explicitly teach *wherein said data-management logic*

automatically updates a path of said link to maintain functionality of said link ·

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following said transmission. Ferguson, though, suggests this limitation. (See column

3 lines 59-65 in Ferguson, discussing updating the STG data storage file, in the context

of column 7 lines 47-57, discussing a scenario involving link generation due to "the

modification of its corresponding document".)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to apply the teachings of Ferguson for the benefit of Kim, because to do so

provided a user with an efficient way to automatically import, index, categorize, store;

search, retrieve, manipulate and archive electronic documents, as taught by Ferguson

in the Abstract. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e.,

the management of electronic documents.

Regarding claim 3: Kim does not explicitly teach the use of top-level directories

and subfolders. Ferguson, though, suggests this limitation. (See Figure 3 and column

4 lines 59-67 in Ferguson, illustrating the use of top-level folder and subdirectories. The

specific data one arranged in a hierarchy was an obvious variant to one skilled in the art

at the time of the invention.)

Regarding claim 4: Kim teaches the use of hard disk data storage. (See Figure

1 #3 in Kim, showing a file server computer, it having been well-known in the art that file

server computers contain a hard drive.

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Regarding claim 5: Kim does not explicitly teach printing. Ferguson, though, suggests this limitation. (See column 11 lines 29-32 in Ferguson, discussing a utility for viewing and printing documents.)

Regarding claims 7-12: Kim does not explicitly teach the recited limitations. Ferguson, though, suggests these limitations. (See column 10 lines 9-11 in Ferguson, discussing the processing of multipage documents, and column 15 lines 34-40, discussing the linking of a plurality of documents to/from a compound document. Establishing links, whether in a 1:1, 1:MANY, MANY:1 or MANY:MANY fashion, was an obvious variant to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention.)

Regarding claim 13: Kim does not explicitly teach link removal. Ferguson, though, suggests this limitation. (See column 7 lines 53-57 in Ferguson, discussing the removal of only the link.)

Regarding claims 15-18: Kim does not explicitly teach the recited limitations. Ferguson, though, suggests the use of an add-in. (See Figure 12 in Ferguson, showing the display results for a browser application add-in.) Ferguson also suggests the use of a data management system. (See the Abstract of Ferguson, discussing a document management application program, it having been an obvious variant to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention as to number of software modules and the location of

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specific functionality in each module.) Ferguson also suggests link-editing/ updating.

(See column 3 lines 59-65 in Ferguson, discussing the updating of an STG data storage

file.) Ferguson teaches the use of icons. (See column 12 lines 41-52 in Ferguson,

discussing the use of icons to represent links.)

Regarding claim 22: Kim does not explicitly teach printing. Ferguson, though,

suggests this limitation. (See column 11 lines 29-32 in Ferguson, discussing a utility for

viewing and printing documents.)

Regarding claims 23-26: Kim does not explicitly teach the recited limitations.

Ferguson, though, suggests these limitations. (See column 10 lines 9-11, discussing

the processing of multipage documents, and column 15 lines 34-40, discussing the

linking of a plurality of documents to/from a compound document. Establishing links,

whether in a 1:1, 1:MANY, MANY:1 or MANY:MANY fashion, was an obvious variant to

one skilled in the art at the time of the invention.)

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   Regarding independent claim 27: Kim discloses

   A data-management system for generating a plurality of links to target

documents in an electronic document, (See the Abstract and paragraphs [0012] –

[0014] in Kim, discussing automatic link generation between a target and an HTML

document opened in a browser application upon scanning a document into a target file

digital format) **said data-management system comprising: means for creating and**

editing said electronic document; means for generating a plurality of target

documents from electronic data captured by a data-capture device; (See

paragraph [0012] in Kim, discussing inputting a document to a scanner or fax and

creating a file object.) **means for storing said plurality of captured target**

documents in a computer readable memory; and means for generating a link at a

plurality of user-selected locations in said electronic document to said plurality of

captured target documents. (See paragraphs [0012] – [0014] in Kim, discussing

automatic link generation and storage and noting that paragraph [0014] discusses

retrieval of the created image file, which inherently required that the file be stored before

being retrieved.)

   However, Kim does not explicitly teach editing, generation of a plurality of

documents or use of sequential identifiers. Ferguson, though, suggests editing. (See

column 12 lines 8-15 in Ferguson, discussing an edit menu and editing functions.)

Ferguson also suggests the generation of a plurality of target documents. (See column

15 lines 30-39 in Ferguson, discussing clipped documents being formed from a plurality

of documents such as images, Word documents and HTML files, and column 15 line 63

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– column 16 line 6, discussing links to a compound document from each component

target document.) Ferguson further suggests the use of sequential identifiers for

targets. (See column 5 lines 1-15 in Ferguson, discussing the sequential numbering of

documents [e.g., D_1, D_2, etc.].)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to apply the teachings of Ferguson for the benefit of Kim, because to do so

provided a user with an efficient way to automatically import, index, categorize, store,

search, retrieve, manipulate and archive electronic documents, as taught by Ferguson

in the Abstract. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e.,

the management of electronic documents.

Regarding claim 28: Kim does not explicitly teach printing. Ferguson, though,

suggests this limitation. (See column 11 lines 29-32 in Ferguson, discussing a utility for

viewing and printing documents.

Regarding claim 29: Kim teaches "transmitting" documents to storage. (See

paragraphs [0013] – [0014] in Kim, discussing storage of documents.) However, Kim

does not explicitly teach updating link paths. Ferguson, though, suggests this limitation.

(See column 3 lines 59-65 in Ferguson, discussing updating the STG data storage file,

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in the context of column 7 lines 47-57, discussing a scenario involving updates requiring

link elimination.)

Claim 30 is substantially similar to claim 3, and therefore likewise rejected.

Regarding claim 31: Kim does not explicitly teach updating link paths.

Ferguson, though, suggests this limitation. (See column 3 lines 59-65 in Ferguson,

discussing updating the STG data storage file, in the context of column 7 lines 47-57,

discussing a scenario involving updates requiring link elimination.)

Regarding independent claim 32: Kim discloses

A system for linking a target document to a portion of an electronic

document in real time (See the Abstract of Kim, discussing automatic link generation

to a scanned document file), **said system comprising: a computer application for**

generating and editing said electronic document; (See the Abstract of Kim,

discussing the use of a scanner and generation of an electronic file.) **link-generating**

logic operable with said computer application for generating a link to said target

document, wherein said target document is an electronic reproduction of a

hardcopy document and is to be generated by scanning said hardcopy document

with an optical data-capture device, further wherein said link is to be generated at

approximately the same time as said captured target document is to be saved,

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and further wherein said computer application is one of a group consisting of a

spreadsheet, word processor, database, presentation application, and any

combination thereof. (See the Abstract and paragraphs [0012] – [0014] in Ferguson,

discussing a browser application and automatic link generation to an HTML page and

storage, in context of [0005], discussing the scanning of paper documents using an

optical data-capture device such as a scanner. It is noted that paragraph [0014]

discusses retrieval of the created image file, which requires that the file be stored.)

However, Kim does not explicitly teach editing. Ferguson, though, suggests

editing. (See column 12 lines 8-15 in Ferguson, discussing an edit menu and editing

functions.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to apply the teachings of Ferguson for the benefit of Kim, because to do so

provided a user with an efficient way to automatically import, index, categorize, store,

search, retrieve, manipulate and archive electronic documents, as taught by Ferguson

in the Abstract. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e.,

the management of electronic documents.

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Regarding independent claim 33: Kim discloses

A data-management system for linking a portion of an electronic document

to a target document, (See the Abstract of Kim, discussing linking an input image)

said data-management system comprising: a data-capture device for capturing

electronic data representing an information object; (See Figure 4 #4 in Kim,

showing the use of a scanner.) **means for generating said target document from**

said electronic data; (See paragraph [0012] in Kim, discussing inputting a document to

a scanner or fax and creating a file.) **a computer readable memory to store said**

target document; and (See paragraph [0014] in Kim, which discusses the retrieval of

the created image file, which required that the file be stored before being retrieved. It is

inherent that such data storage required a computer readable memory.) **means for**

substantially simultaneously storing said target document in said computer

readable memory and generating a link to said target document in said electronic

document. (See paragraphs [0012] – [0014] in Kim, discussing automatic link

generation and storage and noting that paragraph [0014] discusses retrieval of the

created image file, which inherently required that the file be stored before being

retrieved.) *means for transmitting said electronic document and said target*

document to a data storage device. (See paragraphs [0013] – [0014] in Kim,

discussing the storage of documents.)

However, Kim does not explicitly teach *wherein said transmitting means*

automatically updates a path of said link to maintain functionality of said link

following transmission. Ferguson, though, suggests this limitation. (See column 3

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lines 59-65 in Ferguson, discussing updating the STG data storage file, in the context of

column 7 lines 47-57, discussing a scenario involving link generation due to "the

modification of its corresponding document".)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to apply the teachings of Ferguson for the benefit of Kim, because to do so

provided a user with an efficient way to automatically import, index, categorize, store,

search, retrieve, manipulate and archive electronic documents, as taught by Ferguson

in the Abstract. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e.,

the management of electronic documents.

Regarding claim 34: Kim teaches the use of a scanner. (See paragraph [0012]

of Kim.)

Claims 36-37 are substantially similar to claims 3-4, respectively, and therefore

likewise rejected. It is further noted that the exact "means" (e.g., hardware or software

element) in which a particular functionality was implemented, was an obvious variant to

one skilled in the art at the time of the invention.

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Regarding claims 38-39: Kim does not explicitly teach printing. Ferguson,

though, suggests this limitation. (See column 11 lines 29-32, discussing a utility for

viewing and printing documents.)

Regarding independent claim 40: Kim discloses

An electronic-document management method for creating and managing

an electronic document having a link to a target document in a computer

application, (See the Abstract and paragraphs [0012] – [0014] in Kim, discussing

automatic link generation between a target and an HTML document opened in a

browser application upon scanning a document into a target file digital format) **said**

method comprising the steps of: generating said target document from

electronic data representing an information object captured by a data-capture

device; and (See paragraph [0012] in Kim, discussing inputting a document to a

scanner or fax and creating a file object.) **substantially simultaneously storing said**

target document in a computer readable memory and generating said link at said

user-selected location in said electronic document. (See paragraphs [0012] –

[0014] in Kim, discussing automatic link generation and storage and noting that

paragraph [0014] discusses retrieval of the created image file, which inherently required

that the file be stored before being retrieved.) *transmitting said electronic document*

and said target document to a data storage device upon receiving a command

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from a user; (*See paragraphs [0013] – [0014] in Kim, discussing the storage of*

documents.)

However, Kim does not explicitly teach *and updating a path of said link to*

render said link operable after said transmission. Ferguson, though, suggests this

limitation. (See column 3 lines 59-65 in Ferguson, discussing updating the STG data

storage file, in the context of column 7 lines 47-57, discussing a scenario involving link

generation due to "the modification of its corresponding document".)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the ·

invention to apply the teachings of Ferguson for the benefit of Kim, because to do so

provided a user with an efficient way to automatically import, index, categorize, store,

search, retrieve, manipulate and archive electronic documents, as taught by Ferguson

in the Abstract. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e.,

the management of electronic documents.

Regarding claim 41: Kim does not explicitly teach document viewing.

Ferguson, though, suggests this limitation. (See Figure 1 element #169 and column 11

lines 28-32 in Ferguson, discussing document viewing.

Claim 43 is substantially similar to claim 3, and therefore likewise rejected.

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Regarding claim 44: Kim does not explicitly teach printing. Ferguson, though, suggests this limitation. (See column 11 lines 29-32 in Ferguson, discussing a utility for viewing and printing documents.)

Claim 45 is substantially similar to claim 18, and therefore likewise rejected.

Claim 46 is substantially similar to claim 17, and therefore likewise rejected. It is further noted that manual intervention or automatic updating, were obvious variants in light of each other to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention.

Regarding independent claim 47: Kim discloses

An electronic-document management method for creating and managing an electronic document having a plurality of links to target documents in a computer application, (See the Abstract and paragraphs [0012] – [0014] in Kim, discussing automatic link generation between a target and an HTML document opened in a browser application upon scanning a document into a target file digital format. It was an obvious variant to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to include more than one link.) **said method comprising the steps of: generating a plurality of target documents from electronic data representing one or more information objects captured by a data-capture device;** (See paragraph [0012] in Kim, discussing inputting a document to a scanner or fax and creating a file object.) **generating one or**

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more links to the target documents in said electronic document. (See the Abstract and paragraphs [0012] – [0014] in Kim, discussing automatic link generation between a target and an HTML document opened in a browser application upon scanning a document into a target file digital format. It was an obvious variant to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to include more than one link.)

However, Kim does not explicitly teach **editing, generation of a plurality of documents or use of sequential identifiers.** Ferguson, though, suggests editing. (See column 12 lines 8-15 in Ferguson, discussing an edit menu and editing functions.) Ferguson also suggests the generation of a plurality of target documents. (See column 15 lines 30-39 in Ferguson, discussing clipped documents being formed from a plurality of documents such as images, Word documents and HTML files, and column 15 line 63 – column 16 line 6, discussing links to a compound document from each component target document.) Ferguson further suggests the use of sequential identifiers for targets. (See column 5 lines 1-15 in Ferguson, discussing the sequential numbering of documents [e.g., D_1, D_2, etc.].)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Ferguson for the benefit of Kim, because to do so provided a user with an efficient way to automatically import, index, categorize, store, search, retrieve, manipulate and archive electronic documents, as taught by Ferguson in the Abstract. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e., the management of electronic documents.

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Claims 48-49 are substantially similar to claim 42 and claim 3, respectively, and

therefore likewise rejected.

Regarding claim 50: Kim does not explicitly teach printing. Ferguson, though,

suggests this limitation. (See column 11 lines 29-32 in Ferguson, discussing a utility for

viewing and printing documents.)

Regarding claim 51: Kim does not explicitly teach the use of icons. Ferguson

teaches the use of icons. (See column 12 lines 41-52 in Ferguson, discussing the use

of icons to represent links.)

Regarding claim 52: Kim does not explicitly teach updating link paths.

Ferguson, though, suggests this limitation. (See column 3 lines 59-65 in Ferguson,

discussing updating the STG data storage file, in the context of column 7 lines 47-57,

discussing a scenario involving updates requiring link elimination.)

Regarding claim 53: Kim does not explicitly teach user selected link locations,

comparing the number of locations with the number of documents to be linked and

generating a link for each document. Ferguson, though, suggests these limitations.

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(See column 9 lines 51-65 in Ferguson, discussing updating the importing documents,

and column 9 lines 27-31, discussing the linking of multiple documents.)

Claims 54-55 are substantially similar to claims 24-25, respectively, and

therefore likewise rejected.

Regarding independent claim 56: Kim discloses

A data-management system for generating a hyperlink in real time between

a portion of an electronic document opened in a computer application and a

target document, (See the Abstract and paragraphs [0012] – [0014] in Kim, discussing

automatic link generation between a target and an HTML document opened in a

browser application upon scanning a document into a target file digital format. It was an

obvious variant to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to include more than

one link.) **said system comprising: a digital computer terminal comprising a**

computer readable memory and a data-capture device; (See Figure 2 #88 and #82

of Kim) data-capture logic in communication with said digital computer terminal for

controlling capture of electronic data by said data-capture device; (See The Kim Figure

2 #80, 81 and 82, in context of paragraph [0012] discussing the use of a scanner.)

target-document logic in communication with said digital computer terminal for

generating said target document from said electronic data; (See the Abstract of

Kim, discussing generation of a target document via a scanning process for display in a

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browser.) **link-generating logic in communication with said digital computer**

terminal for substantially simultaneously storing said target document in said

computer readable memory and generating said link to said target document in

said electronic document in real time; (See the Abstract and paragraphs [0012] –

[0014] in Kim, discussing automatic link generation between a target and an HTML

document opened in a browser application upon scanning a document into a target file

digital format. It was an obvious variant to one skilled in the art at the time of the

invention to include more than one link.) *data-management logic for transmitting*

said electronic document and said target document to a data storage device. (See

paragraphs [0013] – [0014] in Kim, discussing the storage of documents.

However, Kim does not explicitly teach *wherein said data-management logic*

automatically updates a path of said link to maintain functionality of said link

following said transmission. Ferguson, though, suggests this limitation. (See column

3 lines 59-65 in Ferguson, discussing updating the STG data storage file, in the context

of column 7 lines 47-57, discussing a scenario involving link generation due to "the

modification of its corresponding document".)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to apply the teachings of Ferguson for the benefit of Kim, because to do so

provided a user with an efficient way to automatically import, index, categorize, store,

search, retrieve, manipulate and archive electronic documents, as taught by Ferguson

in the Abstract. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e.,

the management of electronic documents.

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Conclusion

7.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action..

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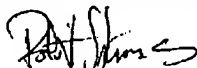
Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert Stevens whose telephone number is (571) 272-4102. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00 - 2:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Robert Stevens
Examiner
Art Unit 2162

April 25, 2007

MOHAMMAD ALI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT
(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/780,271
Filing Date	February 17, 2004
First Named Inventor	HODGE, Philip et al
Art Unit	2162
Examiner Name	STEVENS, Robert
Attorney Docket Number	110308.0005

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.¹	Document Number — Number-Kind Code² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
/RS/	AA	US- 6,663,892	12-16-2003	THASSU	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code³ Number⁴ Kind Code⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T⁶
/RS/	A1	WO 02/41170 A2	05-23-2002	INTERLEGIS, INC.		

Examiner Signature	/R Stevens/	Date Considered	04/25/2007

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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